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VOLUME XIX.

THE

BATES STUDENT.

Published by the Class of '92,

BATES COLLEGE,

LEWISTON, MAINE.

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EDITORIAL

THERE is a good old New England custom of gathering around the parental board every Thanksgiving, and there, in sacred communion with those they have learned to know and to love, summing up the blessings and successes of the past year, offering up thanks for their enjoyment, and words of satisfaction that the trials and tribulations have been no greater. This, we say, is a custom, and by that we do not mean to say that it is always observed. And so, as we spread the editorial ink for the last time, it may not be inappropriate for us to review briefly the history of the past year, bestow thanks where they are due, and bury in deserved oblivion whatever may have gone wrong.

We have published in our ten numbers three hundred pages of reading matter, an average of thirty pages a month, or over six pages a month more than last year, almost five pages more than the year before, and exactly two pages per month more than in the year 1888. In the Literary Department proper there have been thirty-eight prose articles and twenty poems, while all contributions from the alumni have been placed in the Alumni Department by themselves. For the greater part of these articles we are indebted to those not on the editorial board and
appreciate fully the generosity of others in their assistance.

But to none is more credit due than to our managers for the past year's success. It is they whose diligence and efficiency have done as much to secure success as all others concerned. Without an ably managed business and financial department, less could be undertaken or achieved in the other lines of editorial work, and, whatever else we have lacked, this we have had. Not only has every reasonable request of the editors been fully satisfied, regardless of cost, but the fact that the number of pages of advertisements—and that, too, at just as high rates as ever before—has averaged at least three a month more than ever before, since the pages reached their present size, speaks well for the ability with which this department has been conducted.

Before closing this article there is one thing which we wish might be more thoroughly impressed upon the minds of the students, and that is the fact that they ought to patronize more and more those who patronize them. Whereas if they were kept in some more frequented room, every student could keep posted in the doings of the outer college world. This is what is needed to keep the inner sphere rotating. A college, far less than an individual, is able to live prosperously on the hermit plan, and nothing can do more to keep up the intercourse with other institutions than a mutual exchange of customs, interests, and ideas as set forth in the college papers. But these can hardly be said to be exchanged if those which come in from outside are read by only about a half-dozen students.

Then, too, if the exchanges were read more widely, it would enable each new editorial board to take up the work at greater advantage. It is not desirable to ape the style or character of any other paper, but if we would have our Student as good as the best it might be well to let the prospective editors see a sample copy of the best occasionally before assuming the actual duties of editorship. Finally, it would make the exchange column of more local interest if the papers and articles referred to were placed in easy reach of those interested. To be sure the exchange column is intended chiefly for our fellow-editors elsewhere, but still, if a magazine is of special interest, there is a twofold reason for noticing it if home students, as well as those from whom it came, can enjoy it.

It may be well to notice a few of the good points in the new college Y. M. C. A. constitution recently adopted by us. Three new committees
are provided for: One whose sole duty shall be to have charge of the efforts to reach new students at the beginning of the year; a committee on intercollegiate relations; and a finance committee. The first of these has been embodied in part in the committee we have elected heretofore for the Freshman reception; the second has been everybody's business, and the third nobody's. The duties of three old committees, those on Bible study, membership, and missions, have been made more definite, and besides his regular duties, under the new constitution, the president is made chairman of the executive committee, and "he shall, on retiring, present a written report covering the term of his office, together with recommendations concerning the future work of the association." The most important change is in the addition of two sections to the article on committees as follows:

Sec. 7. The president shall hold a cabinet meeting at the beginning of each term, to be attended by the officers and chairmen of committees, at which the policy of each committee for the ensuing term shall be marked out and discussed. Sec. 9. Immediately after the monthly meeting of each committee its chairman shall file with the recording secretary a written report covering the work of the committee during the preceding month. The recording secretary is then enabled to hand over to his successor a detailed and systematic report of the year's work.

The other changes are of minor importance. On the whole the new constitution is a decided advance over the old one in the direction of organization and all around work.

About once every two years some one or two of the four Maine colleges starts a movement looking to the formation of an intercollegiate athletic association, but for some reason, whose validity would seldom bear investigation, the movement has always received a check from the others. This year Colby has taken the initiative and Bowdoin has already expressed a willingness to join in, leaving Bates and Maine State College to say whether it shall be a success or suffer the ignoble fate of its predecessors.

Shall we fall in and do our part? There are two strong reasons why we should. First, a literary institution should adopt every legitimate means to encourage good, wholesome physical culture. Decayed lungs and a crooked back are no longer signs of true scholarship. Nor do a languid step and a general mortuary appearance betoken an active intellect. And still the colleges cease to grind out this material only so fast as they encourage athletic sports. To be sure long journeys over the country by wandering troops of collegiate minstrels, making a bluff at four times as much as they are able to accomplish creditably, are not desirable. But when, by going no farther and taking no more extra time than would be required by an annual intercollegiate field-day here in Maine, so much zest and animation could be inspired in a work that would build up a body capable of sustaining the demands
of active mental work, it does not seem very objectionable. Talk about what is accomplished in this line by our local inducements is all well enough, but he must be blind who sees not the lack of life put into it, and the consequent demand for something to produce a change. The extra .8 rank will bring them to the gymnasium and the presence of an instructor will keep them in line until the roll is called, but much of the exercise they actually take is about as efficient as the physical development a German student gets out of resting his feet on his table and drawing his breath through the stem of a ponderous tobacco pipe.

But in addition to this reason is that other, which should have some weight with every institution anxious for its own welfare—policy. Athletics are taking rapid strides in the fitting schools, and their graduates, the wide-awake, ambitious ones, are going to be influenced more and more by this consideration in their college preferences. If we are going to keep abreast of the times we must be alive to new issues. It is a mistake to suppose that desirable students care only for an opportunity to garner the lore of the ages. They are coming more and more to realize that their sheaves will be of little value if they have not the strength to carry them from the field after they have been gathered.

A MATTER was brought before the members of the two societies in the course of the past term which, we believe, deserves far more attention than it has received. We refer to the question of the advisability of uniting the society libraries.

And why does this question demand our attention? Because the present arrangement of having one small library for the whole college and two more still smaller libraries, consisting mostly of duplicates, for the societies, is utterly foolish. In view of the crying need there is for better library facilities in our college, the existence of such a state of affairs demands a remedy.

The friends of the present system, if it has any, may claim that it is the proper thing for a literary society to have a library; that it is thus possible for a society to place within the reach of its members books which, for some reason, are not found in the college library; and that the society library is often accessible when the main one is not open.

To consider these objections in order, we admit that it is very desirable for a literary society to have a library. But if it be found that the interests of the students are not best served by the present arrangement, then it is our mutual duty to seek to discover a better system. The second objection is no objection at all, and the third ought not to be, for if there is one innovation which we need more than any other it is having the college library open all day and in the evening.

In view of all the circumstances the remedy that we would recommend is still more radical than the one proposed. Why not incorporate the society libraries with the college library? We would not for a moment urge that
either society lose its interest in its books. Let them all go in stamped as they are, and let every new book put in by either society go in under the stamp of that society and be understood as belonging to it. Then if there is any department of literature that is not well enough represented to satisfy the students, let both societies unite in a strenuous effort to make it otherwise. To show what an effect this would have on one direction, we think that the two societies together own nearly, if not quite, twice as many works of fiction as are found on the shelves below. And perhaps there is no one alcove in the main library that has more expletives hurled at it than that which contains the munificent collection of works of fiction.

Putting the society books in under their respective stamps would afford an opportunity for a return to the old system at any time when the college ceases to need our assistance, or in case the arrangement should prove unsatisfactory to the students.

TO OUR mind, foot-ball is coming to be one of the greatest of American games, and will soon take the place of base-ball as an outdoor exercise in the fall. It requires more active exertion of the body, more coolness and nerve, more courage, and we believe it is coming to require more skill, and we feel sure it will develop more self-confidence and manliness if played in a manly way, than any other game. The sneer with which it has usually been spoken of as "a game of slugging" is gradually disappearing into that region to which is relegated all such impotent opposition to changes. That it has been characterized by considerable roughness in the past, no one denies, but no game meets with universal approval, nor is adapted to public opinion at first. It took years for the American game of base-ball to reach its present place in the hearts of the people. So, too, we see a progress in the game of foot-ball towards meeting the demands of the public. Dangerous? This element we believe is also being eradicated, and we would point to the games played by Harvard and Yale, and Yale and Princeton, this fall, when no player was injured sufficiently to take him out of the game, and the game being stopped but a few times on account of injuries, yet hardly a ball game occurs but that the game is called on account of some injured player, and very frequently a substitute is required. Skill and coolness is characterizing the game played now, rather than brute strength and rowdyism. Another significant fact is that many of our fitting schools are adopting the game, and the waters of the lake must soon exhibit the characteristics of the sources from which it receives its supply. We hope that when our athletic field materializes, Bates will surely be represented by a foot-ball team worthy of her as a college, and an effort should be made by students, alumni, and friends of the institution to raise the funds necessary for the completion of this much-needed field for the athletic sports.
THE prospect of Bates having a field for athletics should awaken an interest in every loyal friend of the college. The site has been selected and plans drawn up, which will give the future students of Bates ample opportunity to indulge in all the athletic sports which are receiving so much attention throughout the college world. Not that we would advise Bates going into them on a scale with Harvard and Yale. Not at all; but we do believe better opportunities and a more general entering into athletic exercises would be a boon to our college,—would enable her to send out more perfect types of men and women. The proposed plan would, as we understand it, give us a ball field, a running track, and football field. The first two we all have felt the need of many times, the latter, if we read aright the signs of the times, we shall need very soon.

LITERARY.

PERIO'S SERVICE.

BY ANNIE V. STEVENS, '82.

O sparkling waters of the famous Rhine,
The banks ye lave still teem with life and song,
As when, of yore, they echoed to the clang
Of dungeon bars and drawbridge; stately yet
The ruins are by which your crags are crowned.

Full many a story quaint and legend old
Your magic region lends to our delight;
But mine I choose is not a gay romance,
Nor yet heroic as the world would say.
I sing of humble service better far
Than riches, fame, or honor, in reward.

In ancient Rheinstadt, centuries ago,
A vast cathedral reared its massive form.
A world-wide name its architect had won,
And none among his workmen were, but what
Were noted for their skill throughout the land.

Each to attain his cherished goal of fame
His utmost skill employed to do his part—
Parts which, united, make the perfect whole
And thus the Temple rose—a splendid proof
Of man's great energies and powers of mind.

One day, while yet the vast interior
Was incomplete, there came a man, bowed down
By weight of years, and to the architect
Thus, with respect, he spoke—"O honored one,
Who hast in thought a richer treasury
Than Croesus' gold, all men have heard thy fame,
Which, as the earth, is broad. Thee I address,
To thee I make my plea; do not refuse,
For though I seem infirm, I yet am strong,
Thy work I'll not disgrace, my faith I pledge,
And too, these documents attest my skill.
Let me have place to work among thy men;
No pay I ask—I only seek to serve."

The earnestness with which he spoke o'ercame
The scruples of the architect, and he
Delayed not long to give the answer sought.
So Perio, as he was called, became
A worker on the sculptures rich and rare.

Day after day he wrought with patient skill,
Content to do his best even in the obscure
And gloomy spot to him assigned, through fear
Lest his enfeebled eyesight might impair
The splendid Gothic art there perfected.

Each morn when rosy gleamed the light beneath
Aurora's magic fingers, Perio
Returned to labor eagerly, and as
He paused before his work, unfinished still,
He prayed—"O Father, let me live until
My task shall be complete; but this I ask,
Accepted may this grateful service be,
The best expression of my love to thee."

At last when chancel, nave, and altar stood
Resplendent with the richest carvings known,
The architect, while o'er the work,
Came to the alcove Perio had adorned.
The rosy light streamed o'er the paneled walls,
Whereon the Master, to his great surprise,
Amidst the wondrous carvings, ne'er surpassed,
Beheld a grander work than all beside;—
The face of Christ, wondrously wrought, was there,
And beams of early morn a halo cast
About the head. Long gazed the architect
Upon the marvel, till the light glanced off,
And left the place again obscure.
Till then, the Master's eager look now sought
The inspired author of that work divine.
At length his glance fell downward to the
floor,
And there—beneath the sacred sculpture—
knelt
The sculptor, but his eyes were closed in peace.
His prayer was answered and his task complete;
His hand lost not its skill ere work was done.
And then Death's angel, who stood near,
touched him
And summoned him unto his home above.
Though earthly fame he sought not, it is his.
Though poor, unknown, while living, yet his
name
Is linked with praise, as uttered by the crowds
Who, by the hundreds, at a certain time
Each year, in that Cathedral bow the head
Before the matchless work of him who strove
To render service for the sake of love.
His fellow-workers toiled for wealth and fame;
The wealth and fame that perish when we
leave
This earthly sphere of action: dim beside
The glory won by him who humbly served.
Oh, toilers in the world's vast edifice!
Pause and take heed! for if ye seek for fame,
For worldly profit—know that naught escapes
The ravages of time, save that alone
Which benefits mankind by thought or deed;
No deed or thought is ever lost, that may
Inspire mankind to nobler, loftier acts.

Some work is ready for each one of us,
And if we do it, humble though it be,
The inspiration from above, to us
As long ago to Perio, will come.
O'er our work, too, a glory will be thrown.
For, searching in the book of Life, we find,
Love's service was the lesson taught by Him
Who said, "to minister, and not to be
Ministered unto, have I come to thee."

ETHICS OF DOUBT.

BY W. B. SKELTON, '92.

THERE is a class of individuals who
recognize good in nothing that exists, who would have the universe swept with fire every day, that they might rear anew a structure modeled after their own conceit, who devote precious time to whetting their blades of scorn and derision on the rasping edges of their own distorted views. But, much as we would deprecate this fault, equally far would we be from discouraging the exercise of the right to question any principle before endorsing it, of hesitating long before adopting a theory without the proofs. That he who professes uncertainty on a subject, for lack of testimony, necessarily does so through indifference to the truth, though often influencing weak minds to cling to that they know nothing of, is an assertion worthy of supreme contempt. There is too much hereditary belief already. Too many of the theories people exalt and cherish are simply heir-looms, transmitted from generation to generation like a coat of arms, and indebted to their antiquity for the homage they receive. Every man owes it to himself to test the metal before he swears that it is gold.

It is the privilege whose exercise warrants and secures the only human freedom possible. It is the bulwark of all liberty, social, political, and religious. Silent acceptance of the precepts of leaders, no matter how great and how magnanimous, cannot fail to make tyrants of them. Unqualified admiration and confidence will poison the democracy of any man and sow the seeds of social "four hundreds," party bosses and bigoted priests. Disobedience, not to the laws of God, but to the dictation of human dignitaries, is the key-note of progress. For what is progress but the throwing off of the garment woven of the texture of past
customs and past laws, and buckling on the girdle of a new system? If reason shows that the sinews of civilization are being petrified by the poisonous drugs of a Dejanira's mantle of superstition and error, the only course is to tear it off, even though it does take away with it a little of the flesh of a magnified affection for a long-time companion.

Man owes it to himself, then, to avail himself of this privilege of investigating, of questioning, of doubting, if you please. It is his duty to think for himself. Trusting in the past is retrogression; in the great minds of the present, a renewal of caste.

Nor is it safe to accept unquestioned even systems of long standing. Many startling errors have been undetected for years. Witchcraft and slavery were long institutions of respect, but did that prove them right? The Romish church long held despotic sway over Europe, but did that fact convict Luther of rebellion against justice? No; even age is an uncertain mark of truth and should carry little conviction with it, and the debt of veneration due to it has long since been overpaid. Of too long standing and too universal has already become the custom of strewing the grave with the flowers whose perfume should have inspired the living.

But doubt, the act of accepting nothing unquestioned, is more than a personal privilege and a personal duty. It is a duty every man owes to the world. This lethargic acquiescence in what is, not only destroys one's personal respectability and independence, but to that degree enthralls the whole world. It encourages, nay, generates tyranny over body, mind, and soul, and, inasmuch as all reform is but the progress of individuals, should be, must be, avoided.

Efficient opposition, then, to what is clearly wrong is always justified, and delay in its execution dangerous. To be sure, there are those who consider forcible resistance wrong. Even Russia's great realistic novelist has lately pronounced a bitter denunciation of the revolutionary prerogative. The theory seems to be that people ought to endure what is, and trust to Providence, or rather to the clemency of their oppressors, for something better. This doctrine, though well enough for the Czar, is fraught with certain perils to the proletariat. To feed a monster with food of his own choosing will seldom change his nature. Subserviency demands subserviency. Slavery leads to slavery. Let Nicholas II. banish one obnoxious subject to Siberia's wilds and the next one must go on a slighter pretext. The absence of opposition to their insatiable greed only fanned the tyranny of Rome's Tarquins into a fiercer blaze, and who deprecates their exile? When England's Stuarts and France's Bourbons found no palladiums to guard the private life of their subjects, they soon took away the palladium of their public welfare, and who, pray, denounces the noble resistance of the Cromwells and the "Third Estates"? When our colonies were reeling beneath the blows of King George's ruthless ministry, burden was added to burden, and torment to
torment, and who accuses the Wash-
ingtons, the Franklins, and the
Adamses of injustice? Balmaceda
advanced from tyranny to tyranny
until he had become the very incarna-
tion of mediaeval despotism, and who
thinks the Chilian revolutionists had
not a just cause?

Alas! no, Count Tolstoi, well hast
thou done the bidding of thy terrible
sovereign; well hast thou shown the
way to finish populating the Asiatic
steppes with men who deserve to shine
in nobler walks of life; well hast thou
taught the crouching slave to lick the
feet of his relentless master. But just
so far hast thou fallen below the level
of modern civilization. So far hast
thou failed to be inspired by the spirit
that breathes in Magna Charter and
"The Rights of Man." When the
principles of law and equity become
subverted to the execrable greed of a
Bourbon dynasty or the defiant crimi-
nality of an Italian Mafia, the people
are justified in working out their own
salvation by such means as the exigen-
cies as the times demand, be it the
mob or the full-fledged revolution, the
halter, or the guillotine.

And yet there is a strange dread of
the exercise of this right of doubt.
Well-meaning men recoil horror-stricken
before it, as though it were a veritable
Hydra, and, clutching fiercely the
brands of superstition and intolerance,
strive wildly to emulate the Grecian
hero's feat in destroying by flame
every vestige of life. But not even
Hercules succeeded in destroying the
ninth head, the immortal one, and so
they, imitating still, seek to crush it
beneath the load of their own bigotry.
But failure greets their effort. The
very heat they have imparted in de-
stroying the others has all been gathered
into this immortal head and bursts
forth into a blaze that sweeps away
their every check and sheds upon the
world the lustre of a newly discovered
truth.

Nor is this persecution more justi-
fiable than efficient—justified neither by
its necessity nor its fairness. Indulged
in the interest of truth, it arises from
a meagre conception of the attributes of
truth. Truth itself is indestructible,
and if the dissenter from aged pre-
cepts be wrong, his theory will
speedily work its own destruction; if
right, be assured it is immortal and
needs to pass through the test of no
fiery ordeal.

But its fairness is less than its neces-
sity. Not to discourage an ardent
pursuit of the truth in others, but to
aid in its dissemination himself; not to
prevent another from endowing the
world with his conception of the true
and beautiful, but to illumine the de-
fects of that conception with the light
of his own views,—such is the mission
of man. Then why not hold out your
lamp of wisdom instead of your sword
of persecution, clothing mankind, not
in the twilight of dead antiquity, but
in the solar effulgence of universal
light—a light in which every astral
orb, though concealed, it may be, by a
mightier luminary, still contributes its
portion?

It is, then, no less a social duty than
a privilege, no less a moral obligation
than a social duty for every one of
God's creatures to exercise this right of doubt, this right of looking after the weaknesses of present doctrines, that a theory whose falsity the light of progress has exposed may be supplanted at once by what is at least nearer the truth. Mere doubting for doubt's sake is despicable, but a fearless disposition to demand proof of a point, even though it be polluted with the aroma of a long-departed ancestry, is highly commendable. And if it gain for its possessor the epithet of infidel and heretic, 'tis a noble martyrdom.

Not universal pessimism but a wholesome distrust of the efficacy of the present condition of things will purge the mind of a vain idol worship, lead it to penetrate the lichen-laden dogmas of a less capable yesterday, snatch the gems from its core and do away with the alloy.

"Who never doubted, never half believed. Where doubt, there truth is. —'tis her shadow."

OVER-STUDY IN COLLEGE.
(Not an Autobiography.)

BY H. E. WALTER, '92.

In the vegetable kingdom horticulturists are miracle-doers. With steam-pipes and conservatories these wizards succeed in making tropical ferns and flowers happily forget that only a little glass sky separates them from the winds and snows of a northern climate and, only give them a little time, and they will transform a single rose into a double one for you. They can make a strawberry vine lose its reckoning and bear fruit in January instead of June, or educate a peach until it will blush with shame when it thinks of its humble ancestry. We have all seen the perennial prize squash at the State Fair which was fed upon milk until it outgrew the biggest lie of the oldest inhabitant, and vegetable instances might be indefinitely cited to illustrate forced growth and unnatural development.

Thereby hangs a moral for the college student. If he is fed with intellectual milk to excess, like the prize squash, the result will be coarse-grained, unnatural, and watery. The universal lesson of forced growth is that it is attained at the expense of something else, and it is just as true in regard to the brain of a student as with fruit or flower. The tame cherry tree is less hardy than its wild ancestor. It sacrificed some of its legacy of endurance in the taming. Nature is a great success as a bookkeeper. Her books always balance and she never makes a blunder in adding up the figures.

For instance, that student who studies until late at night and then bandages his head with a wet towel in order to study longer, is mortgaging his body to pay off his head. Or that student who is so heedless of the demands of nature as to turn to his books after eating his dinner and before giving his digestive system its innings, or who neglects exercise in order to have time to read, even good literature, does so at his peril. The threadbare excuse of necessity, of the force of circumstances often making it imperative that exercise be neglected or that the blood be sent to the head instead of the stomach and liver directly after dinner,
ought to be retired on half pay. To say that it is necessary for us to undermine our whole bodily structure in order to stuff the intellectual loft with some fragment of knowledge is an absurdity. It is like saying I have not time to live eighty years, let’s make it forty years!

Prizes, examinations, and the ranking systems so generally in use, by putting a premium on intellectual effort, are apt to be factors in forcing intellectual growth at the expense of something else. The student often works against nature and under pressure because he must or “flunk.” It may be heresy but, under such circumstances, in the long run, would it not be better to “flunk?” What is education any way? It is not the mere acquiring of knowledge mechanically but it is the organization of knowledge, and this requires time and willing thought, both of which are left out in the process of cramming or over-study.

Education is a growth, and to be successful must be natural. In over-education a waste of energy occurs because assimilation is not complete, and energy in daily life means much more than knowledge. A live electrician is worth a dozen libraries on electricity.

In brief, we see that over-study imperils health by cheating the body; that it destroys energy, because it is intemperance; and that, since it does not allow opportunity for assimilation it is unnatural and unprofitable.

We are aware that these ideas are as old as the hills, and that they form a genuine sea-serpent in college magazine literature. So is every idea that is true as old as the hills, because Truth is eternal.

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DEMOCRACY IN ENGLAND.

By N. W. Howard, ’92.

Victor Hugo, in one of his later poems, assumed the role of a political prophet. Looking ahead to the twentieth century he declared that in that century America would exclaim in wonder, “What! I had slaves!” while Europe, with a shudder, would retort, “What! I had kings!” The twentieth century is now so near at hand that we may well begin to inquire how nearly this prophecy will be fulfilled, and no nation of Europe affords a more promising field for such discussion than England.

We find that English history has, during the present century, been marked by a wonderful progress towards democracy. Beginning with the reform bill of ’32, the “Magna Charta of political democracy,” and continuing to the present day, the “irresistible tendency towards democracy,” as so many writers have termed it, has been a constant power in English politics. A historian of no less fame than the talented and accurate author of “Myers’ General History” has made so much of this that the first of the three heads under which he considers English history is “Progress Towards Democracy,” and in his treatment of this division he thus concludes: “The English government is now in reality as democratic as our own. Only the forms of monarchy
remain. It does not seem probable that these can long withstand the en-
croachments of democracy. Heredi-
tary privilege, as represented by the
House of Lords and the Crown, is
likely soon to be abolished.”

If we look for the cause of this
progress we find that it is all due to the
strength of public opinion. At no
time was its power more evident or the
need of its exercise more manifest than in 1832. Bill after bill to reform the
electoral system had been passed by
the Commons, only to be rejected by
the Upper House. “But finally,” in the
words of Myers, “the public feeling
became so strong and violent that the
Lords were forced to yield and the
reform bill of 1832 became a law.”

But all authorities are agreed that
public opinion is to-day more powerful
than ever before. One of the most
ardent royalists that has written upon
the subject voices this sentiment when
he says, “The fact is that in England
the supreme power which rules the
country is public opinion.”

Now I admit the difficulty of ascer-
taining the true state of English public
opinion. In view of this difficulty I
shall confine myself to calling your
attention to the views regarding it of
several of the best authorities I have
been able to find, endeavoring to make
these few quotations fairly representa-
tive of the many that lack of space
forbids me to introduce.

In his article in the Forum a few
years since, entitled “Queen Victoria’s
Reign,” Sir Joseph Wolseley, an ardent
royalist, makes this statement: “A
strong tide of democracy has set in of
process which brought about the dis-establishment of the Irish church."

Still another recognized authority, writing seven years ago, has thus analyzed the situation: "In less than a century we have progressed from absolutism, which denied the sovereignty of the nation, to mixed democracies, which allow a certain degree of national right to men, and a more or less extensive or restricted participation by the citizens in the government. If in less than a century our political forms have been evolved from pure monarchies to mixed democracies, then in less than another century we shall pass from mixed democracies to pure democracies."

And would it not be well to inquire how public opinion was and will be influenced by the revelations of the early summer regarding the character of the Prince of Wales. The English correspondent of the Nation expressed in that paper, about a year ago, this opinion: "An aristocracy will not long maintain its hold in any land where men do not believe in the inequality of mankind and in the hereditary transmission of character and capacity. A real monarchy needs for its support faith, if not in the divine right, at any rate in the necessary superiority and wisdom of kings." Could anything be truer? But how much faith, think you, is to-day reposed by the English people in the "necessary superiority and wisdom" of their future king? An editorial on this subject in the New York World concludes with the pithy sentence, "It is verily a sad day for English royalty." And indeed it was. Why, in so conservative a paper as the Methodist Recorder, published in England, we find this: "We would rather face the risks of a revolution in the English constitution than be condemned to accept a monarch who deliberately fosters gambling."

In view of Queen Victoria's popularity it might seem that the manifest loyalty of the English people to her proves that they are satisfied with the form of government that she represents. But does that necessarily follow? Remember that we are speaking of a most remarkable woman, a woman of wonderful personality, a woman who has been classed as a diplomatist with the leading statesmen of Europe, who grows more popular every day that she lives, and who will never be fully appreciated till she is no more. Popular! Why, the English people adore her! But please to remember that popularity is not hereditary and that it will be very different when the royal gambler wears the crown. If Victoria were no better than her son and successor, how long, think you, would she or the form of government that she represents be tolerated?

It is of course impossible, in so brief a glance at the subject, to more than hint at the tremendous influences that are at work beneath the surface of English politics. But I believe that a thorough study of European politics in general and English politics in particular, would lead us all to heartily agree with the Spanish statesman, Castelar, when he declares that "the final triumph of universal democracy
is already as fully assured as if its blazing track in the pathway of history had already swept into full possession of the hopes, sympathies, and institutions of the nations!"

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"THE TALISMAN."
BY VANN E. MERSERIE, '92.

ALTHOUGH Scott was a Scotchman, a writer of Scotch home life and, it might be said, the founder of a Scotch literature, yet by his English works he is the more widely known, and to them his present rank among novelists is largely due. Next to "Ivanhoe," and perhaps "Kenilworth," no one of his works is more truly a masterpiece and more thoroughly characteristic of the great Scotch novelist than "The Talisman." But in this work Scott wrote under greater disadvantages than in either of the other two. "Ivanhoe" and "Kenilworth" command interest by reason of the time and place pictured out to the readers. "Ivanhoe" represents that period when Normans and Saxons were becoming assimilated and taking upon themselves one nationality. "The Talisman," though drawn from the same period of feudalism and chivalry, is more of an oriental work, and required descriptions of scenes and events when neither history nor language could greatly aid in the development of the story. If, then, in this novel, he makes much use of fancy and often departs from the narrow track of history he is the more excusable. Again, when we remember that the scenes of "Kenilworth" are laid in merry old England in the days of the Virgin Queen we cannot wonder that this story holds a high rank among Scott's English tales. Yet "The Talisman" is not placed at a time wholly devoid of historical interest. The purpose of this great movement in Western Europe, the ardor of the crusaders, the cause of the final disbanding, the character of the Christian princes, and the customs in war and peace of both the Orient and the West are all well brought out.

No one purpose can be assigned the novel more definite than that of showing how chivalry with its outward cloak of courtesy and civilization may cover a character hardly more Christ-like than that of a heathen prince whose shrewdness and generosity rivals truly the King of a Christian land. In this contrast it may be questioned whether Scott does not exaggerate the failings of Richard and the virtues of Saladin. For we see Coeur de Lion urging his dependent cousin to marry a heathen prince, and at the same time sending into heathen servitude the knight whom she loves. We see him a physical hero, yet vain of his courage, and a fuming, half crazy and unmanageable patient in sickness. We see him brave but vain; shrewd but impetuous; here and there redeeming his royal character by kindness and candor, though usually forced to do so by circumstances. Saladin, on the other hand, by his very gentleness contrasts with the boastful Richard. Kind to both man and beast, he not only uses the medicinal powers of the talisman to heal Kenneth's squire and hound but, through his influence with Richard, saves the life of,
and redeems from slavery Kenneth himself, before whom he is twice humbled in combat and on whom he is compelled to look as his successful rival for the hand of Edith Plantagenet. But above all he raises from the burning fever, at the risk of his own life, his most powerful enemy, Coeur de Lion, who alone could rally the forces of the cross against the crescent.

"The Talisman" as a story is thoroughly characteristic of Scott's works. The plot is ingenious and full of surprises. In this case frequent use is made of disguises. Early in the story the main point of interest is the encounter between two solitary travelers in Palestine and later their sojourn at the cavern of the hermit of Engaddi. These prove to be David, Earl of Huntingdon, Prince Royal of Scotland, and Saladin, the Saracen monarch, against whose hosts the crusade was directed. While in the cave, the hermit, studying the stars, sees in one guest a prince whose marriage with Richard's cousin shall reconcile one of Coeur de Lion's powerful enemies. The story of these two adventurers, one as Kenneth, a poor Scotch knight, a Nubian slave, and the Earl of Huntingdon and accepted lover of Edith, and the other as Sheerkoff, El Hakim, the physician at Richard's bedside, and Saladin, the supposed prince, whose marriage should reconcile Richard, forms the thread of the plot. In "The Talisman," too, as in so many of Scott's novels, we find the same long introduction, amounting almost to tediousness—the descriptions so profuse in places as to almost crowd out the more active parts of the story, the historical references if colored, colored to some purpose, the underlying purpose well hidden but never lost. In this novel De Vaux's admiration for Kenneth's hound is but one of the many ways Scott has shown, in his works, his own fondness for the canine race. Here, too, he makes use of the astrologer's art almost as aptly as in "Guy Mannering." But in nothing does "The Talisman" show itself a work of Scott more than in its loyalty to the Scotchman. Bright though the pictures be, which he paints of Richard and Saladin, he brings down from the rugged northward his hero and having given to him every knightly quality, patience, endurance, patriotism, and valor, he crowns him Prince Royal and gives him for a queen one of the most beautiful and womanly characters that has ever graced his pages of fiction. Sir Kenneth, the poor Scotch knight is after all the Hamlet of "The Talisman."

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IN MEMORIAM.

ALDEN C. HUTCHINSON of the class of '91 died very suddenly at Princeton, N. J., November 12th. He entered the Junior class of Princeton Theological Seminary, September 15th, and had been there only three weeks when attacked by what seemed at first to be malarial fever but rapidly developed into typhoid. The fever had abated, however, and he had seemed to improve for several days, when suddenly at about 11 A.M., before those who were with him were
aware of danger, death ensued from heart failure.

When early in its history, the class of '91 have been called to part with one of their most respected and best loved members. Straightforward, genial, and manly to the highest degree, he speedily won the confidence of all with whom he came in contact, while his equable, friendly disposition, and pure moral character justly secured for him the true friendship of all his associates.

He was an earnest Christian and one of the most active supporters of class religious services during his college course.

Early in the winter of 1890-91 he decided to enter the ministry and had just begun to prepare himself for this special service when he was summoned to "That Rest" into which his devoted Christian life has fulfilled the conditions of an "Abundant entrance."

He was the youngest of a family of seven sons and one daughter, who with their aged parents remain to mourn his early death, and to whom his wide circle of friends extend their deepest sympathy.

H. J. C., '91.

CLASS RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, The all-wise Father in his providence has seen fit to call to himself our beloved classmate Alden C. Hutchinson:

Resolved, That while we deeply feel the loss of our esteemed friend and classmate, we recognize therein the Master's hand and are thankful for the example left us of his pure life and noble character.

Resolved, That to his afflicted family, in their bereavement, we extend our heartfelt sympathy, feeling that their loss is in some degree our loss.

Resolved, That these resolutions be printed in the Lewiston Journal and Bates Student, and also a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.

F. J. Chase,  
Kate Prescott,  
F. W. Larrabee,  
Committee for class of '91.

LOCALS.

A Merry Christmas to you and a Happy New Year!

E. E. Osgood, '92, is teaching a private school at his home.

Professor Anthony's new house near the college is nearly completed.

E. W. Small, '93, is clerking in P. P. Getchell's hat store, this vacation.

Hoffman, '93, is still at his work as instructor in the Auburn Y. M. C. A. gymnasium.

Miller, '94, and Professor Angell also have had an attack of tonsilitis during the vacation.

Professor Rand was called to New Hampshire, November 30th, by the serious illness of his mother.

Bates is becoming an asylum for the incarceration of Kodak Fiends. Wilson, '92, is the latest inmate.

Skelton and Putnam of the Senior class are studying law in Newell & Judkin's office during the winter vacation.

Carrie Boothby, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Boothby and granddaughter of President Cheney, died November 23d, aged 16 years.

The Seniors will have the two regular studies, Astronomy and Physics,
next term, and choose their third from one of the three following electives: Advanced German, Civil Government, and Logic.

At the last business meeting of the term held by the Y. M. C. A., the new constitution for college associations was adopted after it had been reported upon by a committee previously appointed for the purpose.

What is being done about the celebration of Washington's Birthday this year? The recent custom of both societies uniting in arranging an original literary programme on that day is too good to discontinue.

The efficiency of the Student board of editors is largely determined by their manager. The editors of '92 have reason to congratulate themselves that they have had so wide-awake and generous a manager as Mr. Blanchard.

The Sophomores have been making some unusual finds in the bird line. They have already seen the purple finch, the white-throated sparrow, the American goldfinch, the robin, the fox-colored sparrow, and the English sparrow.

The Sophomores have begun their winter bird contest very auspiciously. Two of them, Noone and Hatch, identified eleven species within about one hour on the first day of the prize hunt. If this rate is followed up all previous records will be broken.

Several changes have been made in the list of teachers in the Latin School for next term. Skelton, '92, will teach Cicero, Fanning, '93, will have the Rhetoric and Elocution, while E. W. Packard, '95, will take Ferguson's work with the Juniors.

The breakage bills of the Seniors in analytical chemistry last term varied all the way from Miss King, who smashed only 2 cents' worth of a test-tube, to Emery, who, to quote his own words, "Broke everything I had but my Bunsen burner—and that burned back!"

The question for the champion debate for next Commencement week reads, "Does Catholicism Threaten Republican Institutions in the United States?" For the affirmative the disputants are L. J. Brackett, French, Miss Leslie, Harris, and Hoag. Those on the negative are Graves, Leathers, Woodman, Cook, and Hatch.

The lights in Parker Hall these evenings are solemnly few and far between, more so in fact than at any previous vacation for some time. '93's delegation, Bruce, Fanning, Hoffman, Marden, and Small comprise nearly the entire population of this venerable domicile so lately teeming with vicious Sophomores and trembling Freshmen.

A certain female wielder of the birch, of Bates sympathies, is teaching near Lewiston and often has city visitors, consequently her little pupils are loaded, primed, and cocked. Recently while visitors were present she asked "What are we going to have on the top of Mount David?" Up comes an eager hand. "Well, Johnnie, what is it?" Johnnie, triumphantly. "A reservoir!"

The editors of the Student for next year have chosen the principal depart-
ments as follows: Fanning, literary department; Miss Conant, magazine and book reviews; Miss Bean, exchanges; Adams, personals; R. A. Sturges and Winslow, locals and poets' corner. Moulton and Pennell, the managers, spent the first week of the vacation here, soliciting advertisements. They reported very good success.

Work on the baths in the gymnasium is being rapidly pushed and Bates will soon be equipped with first-class bathing apparatus. For this innovation much credit is due the alumni of the college. Generous contributions have been received from the following graduates: O. B. Clason, '77; H. W. Oakes, '77; I. F. Frisbee, '80; T. M. Singer, '90; L. G. Roberts, '87; I. N. Cox, '89; N. W. Harris, '73; J. R. Dunton, '87; U. G. Wheeler, '87; F. J. Daggett, '89; W. L. Powers, '88; F. S. Libbey, '91; W. B. Cutts, '91; F. W. Plummer, '91; F. E. Emrich, '91; W. F. Garcelon, '90; A. N. Peaslee, '90; H. V. Neal, '90; G. F. Garland, '90; F. S. Pierce, '90; S. S. Wright, '87; J. L. Reade, '81; R. F. Johonnot, '79; W. B. Small, '85; C. J. Nichols, '90; F. S. Hamlet, '88.

The Freshman class has been divided into divisions for their Sophomore debates as follows: First Division—Miss Wheeler, Robie, Winslow, Wingate, Wakefield, Pease, Brown, Bolster, Springer, Mason and Miss Cooper. Second Division—Miss Steward, Weeks, Knox, Morrell, Smith, Miss Hastings, Miss Staples, Hutchins, Faruham, Miss Wright, Russell. Third Division—Knapp, Miss Cornish, Miss Summerbell, Packard, Foss, Jordan. Miss Wylie, Miss Willard, Miss Foster, Robertson, T. Pulsifer. Fourth Division—Miss Collins, Pettigrew, Miss Whitehouse, Small, Parker, Webb. Miss King, Miss Williams, Files, Miss Canney, Storer. Fifth Division—Miss Joyce, Heberd, Hayes, Hayden, Sanders, Miss Neal, Blair, Miss Cross, Campbell, C. Pulsifer.

The Y. M. C. A. meetings on Sunday mornings for next term will have subjects taken from the "Sermon on the Mount," as follows: January 17th, The Poor in Spirit; January 24th, Those that Hunger and Thirst after Righteousness; January 31st, The Pure in Heart; February 7th, The Peacemakers; February 14th, The Salt of the Earth; February 21st, Christ came not to destroy but to fulfill; February 28th, The Lord's Prayer; March 3d, Treasures in Heaven; March 13th, God and Mammon; March 20th, "Judge Not;" March 27th, "Ask, and it shall be Given." The Attributes of Christ as taken up last term proved very interesting. These meetings are held from 9.30 to 10 A.M. Sunday mornings and are open to all men in college.

Following is a partial list of those teaching, this vacation, with the town in which they are located:

'92.

Vann E. Meserve, East Winthrop.
E. E. Osborn, Alton, N H.
L. M. Sanborn, North Baldwin.
H. E. Walter, Ashby, Mass.
Scott Wilson, West Cumberland.
M. E. Joiner, Scarboro.
A. B. Libby, Litchfield.
G. L. Mildram, Wells.

'93.

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PERSONALS.

'69.—Rev. Lucien C. Graves, recently pastor of the Free Baptist Church in West Lebanon, has changed his church relations and become a member of the Congregational Church in Lebanon Center. He has accepted a call from the church in Union Village, Wakefield, N. H., and will hereafter be a Congregational minister.—Christian Mirror.

'75.—We clip the following item from the Lewiston Journal: "A new law firm has been formed in Gardiner, the partners being Hon. A. M. Spear, mayor of Gardiner, one of the leading attorneys of Maine, and Charles L. Andrews, Esq., one of the best equipped and most promising young members of the Kennebec bar. The new firm will be one of the most influential in the State."

'75.—N. S. Palmeter is carrying on a large farm in Marcus, Iowa.

'75.—G. W. Wood, Ph.D., principal of East Corinth Academy, will read a paper on the subject, "What is the Matter with our Grammar Teachers?" at the next meeting of the Maine Pedagogical Society.

'76.—Invitations are out for the wedding reception of Rev. T. H. Stacy, pastor of the Court Street Free Baptist church in Auburn. The reception will occur the evening of December 26th. The bride-to-be is Mrs. Nora Harlow of Auburn, widow of Dr. Roscoe Harlow. Mr. Stacy has received a call from the Free Baptist church in Saco.

'79.—W. E. Ranger gave an address, October 23rd, before the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers at their annual convention, held in Magill Normal School, Montreal.

'81.—W. P. Foster, Esq., has a poem in the December number of the Century.

'82.—L. T. McKenney is superintendent of schools in Bedford, Mass., and several adjacent towns.

'82.—We understand that Rev. J. C. Perkins succeeds the late Dr. Hill as pastor of the First Parish Church in Portland. Mr. Perkins has been for several months the associate pastor of the church.

'84.—F. S. Sampson, Esq., of Lisbon, was married, November 21st, to
Miss Emma P. Merrill, of Lewiston. The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. A. Blaisdell.

'85.—R. E. Attwood, of Auburn, has been having a severe trouble with his eyes. He was confined to his home for nine weeks, during six weeks of the time suffering intense pain, day and night. His eyes are now much better and for the past month he has been able to be out.

'85.—D. C. Washburn is assisting his grandfather in the lime business in or near Rockport.

'87.—W. C. Buck is a clerk in the War Department and is taking the course in the National Medical College of Columbian University, Washington.

'87.—Drew & Roberts, of Lewiston, are employed, with W. L. Putnam, Esq., of Portland, and Tascus Atwood, Esq., of Auburn, by the Auburn Aqueduct Company in the transactions relating to the transfer of the Company's property to the city of Auburn.

'87.—E. K. Sprague, M.D., is practicing medicine in Jersey City, N. J.

'87.—S. S. Wright has resigned his position as principal of the Gardiner High School on account of ill health.

'88.—F. S. Hamlet, M.D., who has been teaching at Brownville, Me., has been appointed assistant physician in the Lunatic Asylum at Taunton, Mass.

'89.—F. J. Daggett is in Harvard Law School. His address is 715 Cambridge Street, Cambridge.

'89.—C. J. Emerson, principal of the Symonds Free Academy at Warner, N. H., has been elected principal of the High School in Gardiner, to succeed S. S. Wright, resigned.

'89.—J. F. Hilton, for a while a member of '89, is finishing his course in medicine in the Medical School of the University of Vermont, at Burlington.

'89.—Miss M. S. Little, who has been teaching in the Symonds Free Academy, at Warner, N. H., has accepted a position as lady principal in Hillman's College, Clinton, Hinds Co., Miss.

'91.—P. P. Beal succeeds F. S. Hamlet as principal of the Brownville High School.

'91.—W. B. Watson is employed on the Pittsfield Advertiser.

'91.—A. D. Pinkham, gymnasium instructor in the Pennsylvania State Normal School, at Millersville, has an increase of salary, beginning January 1st.

EXCHANGES.

Our exchanges have grown to be old friends during the year. We need not speak of the pleasure we have felt in reading the typical Literary Monthlylies, which in spite of the many weak articles of fiction and the multitude of book reviews which burden their columns, would deserveably be ranked as the best products of college journalism for their varied and sparkling contributors' departments and their excellent verse alone. But we wish to mention a few of our exchanges that are really excellent in their respective spheres, but which have for various
reasons been little noticed in these pages.

Among the first of smaller magazines ranks the U. of W. *Ægis*, whose closely rolled numbers are eagerly unfurled and read when first they appear. *The Amherst Student*, clad in one of the plainest and least artistic overcoats last winter, has donned a dress both varied and beautiful for the coming season. *The Campus* has become a more frequent visitor though it brings in its weekly visits less comparatively of real literary matter than was to be found in its pages as a monthly. *The University Argus* has grown larger by five or six pages. This paper well deserves its name from the thorough manner in which it represents every interest of the university; for an undergraduate paper, however, its material is drawn rather too largely from outside. The pages of the *Georgetown College Journal* probably contain as many articles of real literary merit, as any one of our exchanges. But in this paper, as well as in the *Niagara Index*, we sometimes notice a touch of religious narrowness. The *College Rambler* of Illinois College most successfully combines the widely different functions of a literary magazine and a newspaper. The *Haverfordian*, too, is one of the best of its class. The *Brunonian* and *Williams Weekly* we should unhesitatingly place at the head of the weeklies devoted to the news. The *Polytechnic* of Troy, N. Y., is a very valuable scientific magazine; almost every number contains at least one article well worthy the attention of the practical student.

Our lady contemporaries have done credit to themselves and their colleges during the year. Among their monthlies, the *Hamilton College Monthly* excels by far in the number and character of literary productions, though the *Sunbeam* has brought many bright interesting sketches and short stories. The *Sibyl*, though a less frequent visitor, is always welcome for its vivacity and gayety; yet it sometimes detracts from its value by admitting too much nonsense.

Our exchanges from the various fitting schools are interesting to us, not only on account of their intrinsic merit, but also because their editors will soon be reckoned among college men and women. Many of these magazines are really excellent, the best being perhaps the *Cony Student* of Augusta and the *Academy Student* of St. Johnsbury, Vt. These two succeed in publishing each month a paper well worth reading. The *Hamptonia* and the *Hebron Semester* are much larger in size and equally good in quality, but from the infrequency of their publication cannot be given as high rank; while others, as the *Racquet* of Portland, and the *Echo* of Fitchburg, Mass., fall into the error of attempting publication at too short intervals for the amount of news about the schools which they represent. We wish that all our preparatory school papers could be published monthly, as that seems in every way most fitting.

We gladly note in our exchanges, as a whole, a decreasing tendency to publish prize orations and the like. The mere printing of articles prepared
for other occasions, and which have already been delivered before quite a part of the magazine’s readers, is not the best use to which the college paper can be put. Though it is very often desirable to preserve in print the best written parts that we hear, and though this is the easiest method of producing a good exchange, yet the practice in writing and the greater interest with which new productions will be read, warrant college editors in the effort to do away with reproducing what has already been heard.

**COLLEGE NOTES.**

The Freshman class at Williams sports an African prince.

Hare and hound clubs are becoming very popular at other colleges.

One of the things peculiar to Oberlin is the opening of each recitation with prayer or song.

A movement is on foot to endow a Cornell pew in the new American church at Berlin.

Hamilton College has adopted the new plan of having Monday as a holiday instead of Saturday.

The Leland Stanford, Jr., University has now 461 students, of which number 19 are foreigners.

At Williams, the class of 1826 graduated twenty-eight men, twenty-three of whom became ministers of the gospel.

The Department of Natural Science at Ohio Wesleyan has been divided. Biology and Zoology constitute one branch and Geology, Botany, and Physiology the other.

Oberlin has recently received an endowment of nearly $92,000 from a former abolitionist whose anti-slavery articles were much quoted at Oberlin in the time of the war.

It is said that during the last seven years the opponents of Yale at foot-ball have won only eighty-nine points, while Yale has scored nearly four thousand.

Mrs. E. S. West, principal of Rutgers Female College, has been dismissed for financial crookedness. It is said that her peculations were sufficient to seriously cripple the institution.

The curriculum at Bowdoin has been changed somewhat from last year, a course in the economic history of the United States being now offered the Senior class during the spring term.

Among the curious items of the College of William and Mary is this: June 26, 1761. Resolved, That Mrs. Foster be appointed stocking-mender in the college, and that she be paid annually the sum of £12, provided she furnishes herself with lodging, diet, fire, and candles.”

The annual catalogue of Bowdoin College, which has just been issued, shows a total attendance of 272, a slight increase over that of the previous year, divided as follows: Medical students, 99; Seniors, 40; Juniors, 34; Sophomores, 42; Freshmen, 53; specials, 4.

The University of Toronto has fully recovered the loss sustained by the fire of 1890. New buildings have been erected with many valuable improvements. Architecturally considered the main college building is the
finest specimen of Gothic architecture on the American continent.

Brown will soon have what may be called a classical laboratory—a private study in Sayles Hall handsomely fitted up with lexicons and reliable texts for the use of students desiring to pursue advanced courses in the classics.

President Dwight of Yale, while not favoring the admission of women to study in the classes with men, does wish Yale had a woman's annex; and the only objection he finds to its establishment is that the University has not the money to put into it.

The Young Men's Era publishes a list of the College Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and Canada, showing a total of 378, fifteen of which are situated in Canada. Twenty-four associations are composed entirely of Indians and negroes. Ten employ general secretaries.

The University of Chicago has recently purchased a library of 280,000 volumes and 120,000 dissertations in all languages, including 200 manuscripts. The books were bought in Berlin, and are expected to arrive next March or April. The catalogue price is between $600,000 and $700,000, and though the price paid is not made public, it was probably not far from $300,000.

The class of '95 generally seems to be an unusually large one in the Eastern colleges. Williams has 105 Freshmen; Amherst, 82; Harvard, 400; Yale, over 500; Wesleyan, 70; Princeton, 325; Brown, 110; Smith, 240; Colgate, 51; Hamilton, 46; Rochester, 59; and Union, 80. Yale opened with 1,800 students, Princeton with 1,000.

Professor Langdon is to meet members of the Brunonian Board once a month during the coming winter for the purpose of discussing the form and matter of light verse, the meter best adapted for certain effects, systems of rhyme, etc. A limited number of other students who wish to contribute to the department "Brown Verse" will be admitted to the class.

The time has come for the editor to pour the yearly vials of wrath on the managers of the oration factory, whose circulars have been sent to the members of the Senior class. We shall simply refer the reader to the volumes of the Review in the library, Nos. I to XIX. If the fiery invectives of our predecessors have been of no effect, we give up in despair.—Ex.

The Faculty of Wellesley, on account of an editorial in the Prelude regarded by them as objectionable, not only compelled the editors to send back the edition to the printers to have the article cancelled, but also decreed that hereafter nothing shall be published that has not received the approval of the President of the college. Much indignation is manifested throughout the college world.

Twenty-five students of Brown have petitioned the Faculty to establish a course in music in the University, beginning with the next term. The idea is to have a general course, covering the principal composers, an important element being the playing of selections from their works by the professor in
charge of the course. The subscribers of the petition agree to elect the course themselves, and it is said that many others would also choose it.

The following recommendations in regard to the programme of grammar schools were made by the Association of New England Colleges at the last session, delegates being present from Harvard, Yale, Williams, Amherst, Trinity, Dartmouth, Tufts, Boston University, Wesleyan, Bowdoin, and Brown:

1. The introduction of elementary natural history into the earlier years of the programme, as a substantial subject, to be taught by demonstrations and practical exercises rather than from books.

2. The introduction of elementary physics into the later years of the programme, as a substantial subject, to be taught by the experimental or laboratory method, and to include exact weighing and measuring by the pupils themselves.

3. The introduction of elementary algebra at an age not later than twelve years.

4. The introduction of elementary plane geometry at an age not later than thirteen years.

5. The offering of opportunity to study French, or German, or Latin, or any two of these languages from and after the age of ten years.

In order to make room in the programme for these new subjects, the association recommends that the time allotted to arithmetic, geography, and English grammar be reduced to whatever extent may be necessary.

These recommendations will be definitely acted upon by the Association next year, and it is desired that the faculties of the various colleges shall carefully consider them before that meeting.

The Science Society of Illinois College has been started with two objects in view: of furnishing an opportunity to students in the science courses to do original work and have it commented on and criticised, and of bringing the science work in contact with the current advances in science. Papers by students and instructors will be read at each meeting and a resume of the scientific intelligence for the month be presented. The original papers are meant to supplement the regular work of the department and to bring in many topics necessarily omitted in the outlined course of study. To keep abreast of scientific work several periodicals will be kept on file in the science reference room. An effort will be made also to increase the number of reference books. The meetings are open to all persons outside the college who are interested in science.

The Brown University Historical and Economic Association has been resolved into the Brown University Lecture Association. The intention is to provide a series of free lectures on subjects adapted to university study. The public will be admitted, though the lectures are intended primarily for the students. Some of the subjects to be lectured on are "Modern Municipalities," "Illustrations of the Spirit of Modern Philosophy," "Old Norse Poetry and the Icelandic Sagas,"
"The Papacy and Its Probable Future." Among the lecturers are to be found some of the ablest literary and professional men in the country. Bowdoin also offers a course of lectures to be delivered on the University Extension plan in neighboring cities. This will include the following: "English Literature," by Prof. Chapman; "Biblical Criticism," by Prof. Woodruff; "Greek Tragedy," by Prof. Lauton; "Biology," by Prof. Lee; "Chemistry," by Prof. Robinson; and "Sociology," by Prof. Wells.

A feature of the new Sage School of Philosophy at Cornell is a professorship of the History and Philosophy of Religion and Christian Ethics, the first of the kind in America. Prof. Tyler will trace the origin of religious tendencies in man; and, though not denying the theory of evolution, will consider prehistoric man as the son of God, since he had in him the potentiality of all that he has become since.

POETS’ CORNER.

Up and down the land we travel
Human Nature to unravel,
But she's a puzzle hard to read,
And hides herself in word and deed;
Turn upon her your attention,
Varied then is her complexion;
And if you think that in one book,
You've surely read her every look,
Yet you'll find with all your trouble,
That her face is ever double.

FAITH.

In the garden of the soul,
Amid the flowering passions bright,
Springs a vine with many a blossom,
But its life is frail and slight.

Touch it not, O learned gardener,
With thy logic's pruning-knife;
Durst thou on thy learning's folly,
Risk the sweetness of a life?

Cut the branches hanging o'er it,
In the sunlight let it grow;
Let the spirit of the night-wind
Through its branches whisper low.

Guard it, as a priceless treasure,
Sacred every branch and root;
In the depth of life's dark autumn,
It shall yield life's sweetest fruit.

E. J. W., '98.

ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP.

A sea of silver mist that rises slow,
Flowing and spreading like a tide of light
Over the city lying still below,
Hushed as if listening for the steps of night.

Slowly the world beneath is blotted out;
The mountain top a sea-washed island seems;—
The waves of vapor slowly curl about
The narrowing space;—and see! the land of dreams,

Whose radiance o'er the silver water streams
From the bright west, weaving a bridge of light,
O'er which swift spirits pass like sunset gleams,
Undimmed by shadow of the coming night.

O, longed for land of dreams, sweet summer land,
Wide is the sea that severs us;—yet, heart,
Thou need'st not linger, mourning, on the strand;—
You world of dreams is of thyself a part!

M. S. M., '93.

THE OLD YEAR'S DEBT.

What's that, boys? Someone is rapping! Oyes
The Old Year, with his bills to present.
Walk in, sir. Your business I think I can guess:—

For twelve months of life, the rent.
Just read off the items one by one,
While I foot up the total due;
And it may be that I shall have when you're done
A claim to present against you.

For a brightness you've taken out of the sky,
And a glow from the noon-day air,
And once, in the sound of the night-winds cry
Dwelt a music, that now is not there.

There's a gladness of youth, that departed one day,
And of late I have sought it in vain;
A sweetness in life, that has vanished away,
And will never come back again.
A hope for the future that seemed so bright,
Till it perished some months ago;
The face of a dear one that’s lying to-night
Under the cold, white snow.
But the vanishing charms of life’s morning
reveal
A broader, a nobler view,
And 'neath the dark surface of sorrow, I feel
That still I am debtor to you.
So a moment’s reflection, a sigh of regret,
(I’ll have to beg off on the tear),
A few little griefs to dismiss and forget,
And I’ve squared my accounts with the year.
Say fellows, what makes you all so glum?
Let’s go out for a swing round the square.
We’ll drink to the health of the year that’s to
come
In a draught of the sparkling air.
For an hour, mid the jubilant throng on the street,
We’ll shine as the jolliest crew;
Then home for the night,—may your dreams
be sweet.—
And to-morrow, begin over new.

MAGAZINE NOTICES.

The Christmas number of the Century has for its frontispiece “The Holy Family,” a painting by Frank Vincent Du Mond. This is a Christmas number indeed, and is pervaded throughout by a spirit befitting the Birthday of birthdays. Besides a specially prepared design for the cover and the frontispiece already mentioned, other engravings of modern pictures relating to Christmas are: “The Arrival of the Shepherds,” by H. Lerolle (with a poem by Edith M. Thomas); “The Appearance of the Angel to the Shepherds,” by P. Lagarde; “The Annunciation to the Shepherds,” by J. Bastien Lepage; “Holy Night,” by Fritz Von Uhde, and a Madonna by Daguan-Bouveret, accompanied by a poem by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, entitled “An Offertory.” Quite appropriate to the season also is Mr. Stillman’s article on “Raphael,” accompanied by Mr. Cole’s engraving of “The Madonna of the Goldfinch,” made especially for this number, and three other examples of Raphael’s work—the Aeneas and Parnassus groups from the Vatican, and the portrait of Maddalena Doni. There are also four stories relating to this season: “The Christmas Shadrach,” by Frank R. Stockton; “A Christmas Fantasy, with a Moral,” by Thomas Bailey Aldrich; “Wulfy, a Waif,” a Christmas sketch from life by Miss Vida D. Scudder, and “The Rapture of Hetty,” dealing with a Christmas dance on the frontier, by Mrs. Mary Hallock Foote. Then, there are other articles,—essays, ditties, jokes, and so on, too numerous to mention.—on this same strain. There is no doubt that a little extra attention to literature directly in keeping with the occasion is a good thing at such times, but this foisting of so much Thanksgiving and Christmas matter on the public as periodicals of various kinds indulge in at present is simply an unwarranted license calculated to produce a sensation of extreme weariness in the reader, to put it mildly. The inherent excellence of the individual articles is no excuse for piling them in so thick as to produce mental indigestion until the next year. If they are really good, string them out through a number of issues. A good Christmas story is as readable one month as another. The turkey must
be eaten at once or lost, but if that is the only excuse for using all this literature at once, better let it go.

In the Century the one hundredth year after Mozart's death is celebrated in an illustrated article, by Mrs. Mason, of Chicago, who wrote the papers on "The Women of the French Salons." We quote the following passage:

"In the midst of his triumphs he is summoned to take his place in the suite of the archbishop, who has gone to Vienna for the festivities that followed the accession of Joseph II. to the throne. This is the final turning-point in his career. The long series of humiliations that made life so intolerable to him in Salzburg reach their climax. He is forced to dine with cooks and valets, refused permission to add to his scanty income by playing at private concerts, and expected to wait in the antechamber, to be always ready for his tyrannical master's bidding. "At half past eleven we take our places at the table," he writes, "the two valets de chambre, the controleur, the pastry-cook, the under-cooks of his greatness—and my littleness. The valets de chambre have the places of honor; I have the privilege of coming before the under-cooks." At last he can bear it no longer, and in a fit of anger and despair at some fresh outrage he resigns his position.

"A most self-sufficient young man the archbishop thinks him. The world gossips about him. His father chides him and loses faith in him; but neither advice nor entreaties avail in the least to change his resolution. 'It is the heart that ennobles the man,' he writes in a burst of rage at being treated like a menial. This is an echo of the sentiment that breaks from the lips of the peasant poet who is toiling and despairing at the same time among the bare and sombre hills of Scotland. These children of song were both doomed to a hopeless struggle with adversity, hunted by poverty, stung by the insults of patronage, and wounded by neglect. Both asserted themselves with the pride of genius and the dignity of conscious manhood, but the spirit of the coming age had found its voice too soon. Burns had a more combative temper, a stronger and more intelligible weapon to turn against the world that frowned upon him, though the shafts of his satire glanced from an impenetrable surface, and only crushed him in the rebound. The tragedy of Mozart's life has not been so clearly outlined in his work. It has found expression only in music that speaks from soul to soul, but tell no definite tale of wrong or suffering. The genius of these men was unlike, and they differed widely in character as well as education, but there is a certain kinship in the spirit that underlies the pathetic ballads of the one and the great tone-poems of the other. It is the spirit of love and humor, the intense humanity, the irrepressible sympathy with all living things that has brought them so near to the heart of the world. Both were poet-singers, both were clear, simple, tender, natural, and true. Both, toil-worn and unfortunate, died early, and it was left for another generation to shed its tears and cast its laurels over their graves. Nowhere is the bitter irony of fate more striking than in the stately mausoleums and magnificent statues reared over the dust or built in memory of these immortal singers.

' I asked for bread and ye gave me a stone.'"

In an article on "Characteristics" Dr. S. Weir Mitchell makes a statement which is interesting at least, though it gives to language a transforming power that would excel a shower bath for reducing Freshman enlargement of the cranium. He says:

"I am quite certain that if to-day France and Germany were suddenly and miraculously to interchange tongues, the two nations would shortly undergo some unlooked-for alterations. I have known several people whose superficial characteristics were quite different according as they spoke French or English, although they were as fluent in the one as in the other. I know of one woman who is common and ill-bred as an English woman, but who, when she speaks French, which she knows well, is apparently well-mannered and rather attractive. Nor, as we reflect, does this seem altogether strange when we consider how much national character has to do with the evolution of language, and how impossible exact translation is. I have heard a man say that to read or speak French made him feel gay, and that the effect of like uses of German was quieting."

The second part of Mr. James's "Chaperon" opens the Atlantic
Monthly for December, and is another of the odd but clever stories with which Mr. James is fond of quizzing the public. This is followed by a paper (to be the first of a series of such articles) on "Joseph Severn and his Correspondents." The correspondents are Richard Westmacott, the painter, George Richmond, the painter, and others; but the most interesting letter of the series is from John Ruskin, giving his first impressions of Venice. One quotation is characteristic, and not without truth. Says Mr. Ruskin:

"I saw what the world is coming to. We shall put it into a chain armor of railroad, and then everybody will go everywhere every day, until every place is like every other place; and then when they are tired of changing stations and police they will congregate in knots in great cities, which will consist of club-houses, coffee-houses, and newspaper offices; the churches will be turned into assembly rooms; and people will eat, sleep, and gamble to their graves."

There are also quotations from Severn's own correspondence, and three or four letters from Mr. Seymour Kirkup.

Following the other articles giving an insight in James Russell Lowell's life and works, that have so appropriately occupied a conspicuous place in our periodicals for the past few months, is an article by Lowell on Shakespeare's "Richard III.," in which he says of Shakespeare's style:

"What, then, is the nature of the general considerations which I think we ought to bear in mind in debating a question like this, the authenticity of one of Shakespeare's plays? First of all, and last of all, I should put style; not style in its narrow sense of mere verbal expression, for that may change and does change with the growth and training of the man, but in the sense of that something, more or less clearly definable, which is always and everywhere peculiar to the man, and either in kind or degree distinguishes him from all other men,—the kind of evidence which, for example, makes us sure that Swift wrote "The Tale of a Tub" and Scott the "Antiquary," because nobody else could have done it. Incessu patuit dea, and there is a kind of gait which marks the mind as well as the body. But even if we took the word "style" in that narrower sense which would confine it to diction and turn of phrase, Shakespeare is equally incomparable Coleridge, evidently using the word in this sense, tells us: "There's such divinity doth hedge our Shakespeare round that we cannot even imitate his style. I tried to imitate his manner in the Tempest, and when I had done I found I had been tracking Beaumont and Fletcher and Massinger instead. It is really very curious." Greene, in a well-known passage, seems to have accused Shakespeare of plagiarism, and there are verses, sometimes even a succession of verses, of Greene himself, of Peele, and especially of Marlowe, which are comparable, so far as externals go, with Shakespeare's own. Nor is this to be wondered at in men so nearly contemporary. In fact, I think it is evident that to a certain extent the two masters of versification who trained Shakespeare were Spenser and Marlowe. Some of Marlowe's verses have the same trick of clinging in the ear as Shakespeare's. There is, for instance, that famous description of Helen, or rather the exclamation of Faust when he first sees Helen:

'Was this the face that launched a thousand ships
And burned the topless towers of Ilium?' one verse of which, if I am not mistaken, lingered in Shakespeare's ear. But the most characteristic phases of Shakespeare imbed themselves in the very substance of the mind, and quiver, years after, in the memory like arrows that have just struck and still feel the impulse of the bow. And no whole scene of Shakespeare, even in his 'prentice days, could be mistaken for the work of any other man; for give him room enough, and he is sure to betray himself by some quality which either is his alone, or his in such measure as none shared but he."
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